

REMARKS:

In accordance with the foregoing, the claim 1, 6, 11 and 16-25 have been amended. Claim 26 has been added. No new matter is added. Thus, claims 1-26 are pending and under consideration. The rejections are traversed below.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b):

Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 11, 12, and 16-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,978,828 (Greer).

In Greer, a user is provided with a setup window (600 in FIG. 9) that allows the user to set or configure values to trigger a web page download (see, col. 7, lines 20-22). For example, a user can configure the setup window such that if a current revision minus the last revision (value in field 604 of FIG. 9) is greater than equal to a certain value, the web page is automatically downloaded (see, col. 7, lines 23-33). That is, as acknowledged by the Examiner at page 3, lines 3-5 of the outstanding Office Action, the user (at a client's side) specifies conditions upon which the web page is downloaded to the client system, and the downloading is effected in accordance with client set conditions for downloading (see also, col. 5, line 17 and col. 7, line 62 through col. 8, line 10).

In contrast, as recited in independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16-20 and 22-25 as amended, "the predetermined condition" that triggers or causes the transmission of the notification to the client system is "set by the server system independent of the client system" ("set by the computer" in claim 11). This allows a homepage provider to have an active role in inducing re-access to a homepage. That is, a notification of a homepage is sent to a client system without the client having to request the notification. For example, a homepage provider can set a condition such that when a predetermined number of days have lapsed since a client's last access to a homepage supported by the homepage provider, information about the homepage (i.e. advertisement, updates, etc.) is automatically transmitted to the client without the client requesting it.

Greer fails to teach or suggest that the download is executed in accordance with a "predetermined condition set by the server system independent of the client system", as recited in each of independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16-20 and 22-25.

It is submitted that the independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16-20 and 22-25 are patentable over Greer.

For at least the above-mentioned reasons, claims depending from independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16-20 and 22-25 are patentably distinguishable over Greer. The dependent claims are also independently patentable. For example, as recited in claim 2, the “said information includes update information of the homepage on or after said point in time”. The Greer method does not teach or suggest the notification to the client system is transmitted based on “predetermined condition set by the server system” (claim 1 upon which claim 2 depends), where the notification includes “update information of the homepage on or after said point in time” (claim 2).

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a):

Claims 3-5, 8-10, and 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Greer and U.S. Patent No. 5,978,807 (Mano).

The arguments presented above in relation to independent claims 1, 6 and 11 are incorporated herein to address the rejection of dependent claims 3-5, 8-10, and 13-15.

The Examiner acknowledges that the Greer system does not teach or suggest a predetermined condition formed by a lapse of a predetermined time from a set point in time, urging input of user information based on which notification of update is made, or that the notification is made via a communicating method depending on the notifying destination information, thus relies of Mano as providing the same.

Mano provides a user interface program of a computer system to enable a user to specify an Internet address of a web page and an access interval according to which versions of the web page will be downloaded; e.g. hourly, daily, or weekly (see, column 2, lines 38-44 of ‘807). Similar to the Greer system, a user specifies conditions upon which the web page is downloaded, thereby limiting the web page provider to a passive role in attracting the user to access the web page.

In contrast to Greer and Mano, the present application allows a web provider an active role by allowing the predetermined conditions using which the download is executed to be set by the “server system” (see, claims 1, 6 and 11 upon which claims 3-5, 8-10, and 13-15 depend).

For at least the above-mentioned reasons, claims depending from independent claims 1, 6 and 11 are patentably distinguishable over Greer. The dependent claims 3-5, 8-10, and 13-15 are also independently patentable. For example, as recited in claims 3, 8 and 13, “the predetermined condition is formed by a lapse of a predetermined time from said point in time”,

where the predetermined condition is set by the server system independent of the client (independent claims 1, 6 and 11).

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

NEW CLAIM:

New claim 26 is added to emphasize that the present invention enables "a homepage provider to create a notification for inducing re-access to the homepage previously accessed by the client system" and includes "automatically transmitting the notification to the client system when a condition set by the homepage provider is met", where the condition of the homepage provider is set "without requiring direct involvement of the client system".

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that new claim 26 is patentably distinguishable over the cited references.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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